

## DEATH OF THE DUKE OF BRUNSWICK.

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of Berlin sent an ultimatum which could scarcely be regarded in any other light than a defiance, and from the well-known character of Napoleon we may judge of his irritation at this ultimatum. The Emperor, after a stay of eight months in Paris passed in abortive negotiations for peace, set out on the 25th of September for the Rhine.

Hostilities commenced on the 10th of October, 1806, between France and Prussia, and I demanded of the Senate that a stop should be put to the Prussians recruiting. The news of a great victory gained by the Emperor over the Prussians on the 14th of October reached Hamburg on the 19th, brought by some fugitives, who gave such exaggerated accounts of the loss of the French army that it was not until the arrival of the official despatches on the 28th of October that we knew whether to mourn or to rejoice at the victory of Jena.

The Duke of Brunswick, who was dangerously wounded at the battle of Auerstadt, arrived on the 29th of October at Altona.<sup>1</sup> His entrance into that city afforded a striking example of the vicissitudes of fortune. That Prince entered Altona on a wretched litter, borne by ten men, without officers, without domestics, followed by a troop of vagabonds and children, who were drawn together by curiosity. He was lodged in a wretched inn, and so much worn out by fatigue and the pain of his eyes that on the day after his arrival a report of his death very generally prevailed. Doctor Unzer was immediately sent for to attend the unfortunate Duke, who, during the few days that he survived his wounds, saw

murder of Palm, which contributed so largely to exasperate the people against the French. This unfortunate man, who was not even a temporary subject by the always questionable right of conquest, had published in the free city of Nuremberg, where he resided, a pamphlet reflecting on the insatiable ambition of Bonaparte. The despot no sooner heard of this than he sent a party of French gendarmes across the frontier, and seized the unsuspecting bookseller, exactly as the Due d'Enghien had been arrested on the neutral territory of Ettingen, and Sir George Kumbold at Hamburg, the year before. Poor Palm, whose blood was terribly avenged by the implacable Prussians eight and nine years later, was tried at Braunauburg a French *court-martial* for a *libel* against Napoleon, found guilty, condemned to death, and shot immediately, in pursuance of his sentence, by French gendarmes. The story of Campbell making this act a reason for giving the health of Napoleon at a dinner of authors is well known.

<sup>1</sup> This Prince was in the seventy-second year of his age, and extremely infirm.